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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Project Homeless Connect to Link People in Need with Resources in Saint Paul

(MINNEAPOLIS – June 20, 2011): Catholic Charities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, Ramsey County Human Services, the State of Minnesota and other service providers will host Project Homeless Connect on Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at the Saint Paul RiverCentre.

The one-day event will provide people who are homeless or living in poverty with the opportunity to access human services benefits, health care, legal assistance, veterans' benefits, state identification services and personal services such as haircuts in one location.

"It's crucial that we offer all of these services in one place," says Katie Tuione, housing manager for Catholic Charities who is coordinating the event this year. "Lack of transportation is a huge barrier for people experiencing homelessness. The more essential services they can get in one place, the better."

The event begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. with the last intake at 3:30 p.m.

Project Homeless Connect started in San Francisco in 2004 and became the national best practice model for getting people into housing.

Last year's Project Homeless Connect in Saint Paul served more than 1,300 people. Of them, 38 percent were families with children, 39 percent reported having no income, and 21 percent met the state's definition of long-term homeless.

For more information, contact Erika Doerr at 612-379-4900.

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